

BILL NO. BL2018-1199 (O'CONNELL, M. JOHNSON, & OTHERS) – This ordinance would dissolve the Metropolitan Homelessness Commission and create a Nashville Davidson County Continuum of Care Homelessness Planning Council to serve as a governing board for the Nashville Davidson County Continuum of Care (Continuum of Care).

This ordinance would repeal Ordinances No. BL2005-582, BL2011-917, and BL2014-777, which established and regulated the Metropolitan Homelessness Commission.

In addition, it would establish the Nashville-Davidson County Continuum of Care Homelessness Planning Council (Planning Council), which would be structured differently from the Metropolitan Homelessness Commission. This would be dependent on the establishment of the Continuum of Care pursuant to federal regulations, including 24 C.F.R. Part 578. The Planning Council would be composed of twenty-five voting members. Eight members would be appointed by the mayor; fourteen elected by the full membership of the Continuum of Care, five of which shall have lived homelessness experience; and three members would be either council members of the vice mayor, as selected by the vice mayor. The mayor could designate up to two advisors to assist the Planning Council in carrying out its duties. The advisors would be Metro employees and would not be eligible to vote. Initial Planning Council members would serve staggered terms, with voting members separated into three classes, with terms expiring one, two, and three years, respectively. Subsequent members would serve three year terms.

Planning Council members would be required to comply with attendance requirements set out in the Continuum of Care Charter. If a voting member fails to meet the attendance requirements, the Planning Council could, by a two-thirds vote, recommend that the mayor remove the member. 24 C.F.R. Part 578 requires that the Planning Council serve as an independent body and be empowered to make decisions and recommendations as the governance board of the Continuum of Care.

This ordinance would also provide that Metro Homelessness Commission staff be known as the Metro Homelessness Impact Division, which would be housed within Metro Social Services. The Metro Homelessness Impact Division would provide staff and resources to the Planning Council.

Two elements would be added to the duties and responsibilities of the Planning Council. First, to fulfill all requirements as to the governing of the Continuum of Care. Second, to hold regular meetings open to the public with published agendas.

The ordinance would take effect on July 3, 2018 if and only if the Continuum of Care has approved an amendment to its governance charter consistent with the terms of this ordinance.

Fiscal Note: Fiscal Note: There should be no immediate financial impact resulting from this change. The staffing and operational budget of the Metro Homelessness Commission would be transferred to the Metro Homeless Impact Division of Metro Social Services.